

# The Collegian

---

Volume 115 2017-2018

Article 4

---

9-26-2017

## Volume 115, Number 4 - Tuesday, September 26, 2017

Saint Mary's College of California

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.stmarys-ca.edu/collegian>



Part of the [Higher Education Commons](#)

---

### Recommended Citation

Saint Mary's College of California (2017) "Volume 115, Number 4 - Tuesday, September 26, 2017," *The Collegian*: Vol. 115 , Article 4.

Available at: <https://digitalcommons.stmarys-ca.edu/collegian/vol115/iss1/4>

This Issue is brought to you for free and open access by Saint Mary's Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Collegian by an authorized editor of Saint Mary's Digital Commons. For more information, please contact [digitalcommons@stmarys-ca.edu](mailto:digitalcommons@stmarys-ca.edu).



# The Collegian

MORAGA, CALIFORNIA • VOLUME 115, NUMBER 4 • TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2017 • STMARYSCOLLEGIAN.COM • TWITTER: @SMC\_COLLEGIAN • FACEBOOK.COM/SMCCOLLEGIAN

## Academic Senate action deemed illegal by lawyer Action sought increase in black faculty employed; provost, senate reacts

BY JACOB TURNROSE  
NEWS EDITOR

On Jan. 18, 2017, the Academic Senate unanimously approved the “Senate Action S-16/17-27: Resolution for Increase of African-American and Black Faculty at SMC.” This resolution acknowledged that, at the time of its passing, African-American and black faculty comprise five percent of the tenure-track faculty of the college, or 10 out of 222 faculty members.

The resolution states, “The presence of a 5 percent African American and black tenure-track faculty represents serious institutional failure.” It continues on to state that the goal is “to achieve hiring results directly in line with academic excellence, its own Catholic and Lasallian Mission, relevant academic and climate needs for students of color, and for all students and faculty at the College.”

“In this instance, making employment decisions to prefer African American or black candidates would constitute employment discrimination,” said Baker, who consulted the college.

The resolution culminates by saying, “Saint Mary’s College shall make an immediate and serious commitment to raising the percentage of African American and black tenure-track faculty to 15 per-

cent by the academic year 2023-2024.”

At the resolution’s passing, there was a question of whether or not the numerical value of 15 percent was legal. According to Melinda Thomas, the past chair of the Academic Senate, she stated, “The TASK Force questioned it. We’re not all attorneys... so we [decided we] would put [the resolution] out there.” She continued on to say, “We recommended that the provost get an independent legal opinion [on the numerical value].”

Provost Bethami Dobkin also “immediately had concerns about the legality of the numerical goal,” said Thomas.

In her response to the resolution, she stated that although she supports the college’s commitment to “academic excellence” and “protecting and increasing diversity,” she “cannot support a resolution that institutes numerical targets for African American and black faculty, based on the legal opinion offered by Hirschfeld Kraemer, LLP,” a labor and employment law firm.

An email sent to The Collegian by an anonymous faculty member detailed this correspondence between the law firm and the administration, in which Natasha Baker of Hirschfeld Kraemer was asked for legal advice from Larry Nuti, the General-Counsel of Saint Mary’s. In the correspondence, sent on March 7, 2017, Baker calls the resolution “unlawful,” saying that it would likely not be able to withstand a “race-discrimination claim.”

“By virtue of its terms and commitment to increase the percentage of African American and black faculty hired within a specified time frame, this resolution constitutes, in legal terms, a ‘voluntary [Affirmative] Action plan (AAP).’” Baker wrote. “A voluntary AAP is any written plan that provides for a spe-

cific advantage in hiring or promotions for [minority] or female applicants.”

“Voluntary AAPs are subject to legal attack on the basis that they violate employment discrimination laws, including

“What I wonder, however, is whether a different kind of lawyer might come up with a somewhat different and more nuanced answer,” said Thomas.

Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the California Fair Employment & Housing Act, which prohibit making employment decisions based on race, color, and national origin, among other characteristics,” wrote Baker. “In this instance, making employment decisions to prefer African American or black candidates would constitute employment discrimination.”

Baker concluded the email by stating, “Unfortunately, although it has laudable goals, the Senate Resolution is unlawful for several reasons.” She continued, “First, using quotas or targets in an AAP, as the resolution does, is not permitted under the law. The AAP also lacks several requisite elements as required under the Code of Federal Regulations, including a detailed analysis showing a history of discrimination and a statistical examination of the labor workforce with the current employer workforce.”

“As such, it is likely that the College would not be able to successfully defend see Resolution, page 2

## What’s Inside

### NEWS



DACA INFO SESSION  
Lawyer informs those in attendance on the legal status of DACA recipients. PAGE 2

JAN TERM PREVIEW  
Learn about upcoming on-campus courses and where student interest lies. PAGE 3

### OPINION

MUCH OF HIGHER EDUCATION IS NOTORIOUSLY LEFT LEANING  
One staff writer discusses the present and future implications of these biases. PAGE 4



TENSIONS WITH NORTH KOREA ARE MOUNTING  
Should we be worried about conflict with the rogue nation? When is free speech is hate speech? PAGE 5

### CULTURE



SISTER ACT: THE MUSICAL  
Adaptation of 1992 film proves successful at Berkeley Playhouse. PAGE 6

### SPORTS

WILL THE USMNT QUALIFY FOR 2018 FIFA WORLD CUP?  
The USMNT could face their first absence in the World Cup in awhile. PAGE 7



MEN’S SOCCER LOOKS TO FINISH STRONG IN NON-CONFERENCE PLAY  
Coming off two home matches, the Gaels travel to Akron, Ohio for their last non-conference match of the season. PAGE 8

## Seminar turns 75; Symposium reflects on its purpose

BY JACOB TURNROSE & MAUREEN THAETE  
NEWS EDITOR & ASST. NEWS EDITOR

On Saturday, Sept. 23, the Collegiate Seminar program celebrated its 75th anniversary.

“A Symposium on Collegiate Seminar at 75” was the title of this anniversary. President James Donahue gave the opening address at around 9:15 a.m.

“What is it that makes this college distinctive, unique, and distinguished?” he asked. “What do we do better than other schools? College leaders and presidents ask these kinds of questions all the time,” he said. “It is clear to me that the Collegiate Seminar [program] is a distinguished ‘Something’ ...that sets us apart.”

President Donahue explained how Seminar “enhances and builds our mission [at Saint Mary’s College].” He took special note of how the program connects to the college’s liberal arts and Catholic traditions.

“[The] liberal arts tradition invites our students, faculty, and staff to explore fundamental questions of human experience [such as]... ‘What does it mean to be fair and just?’... ‘How do we respond to the darkness of human nature?’ These are the kind of questions...that we, as part of Seminar, introduce [to] our students and invite them to explore.”

“To be in a Catholic college is, at its

core, a spiritual practice,” he continued. “Understanding that we are in the presence of God and that, through education, we strive to know where truth, knowledge, wisdom, goodness, beauty, love, and ultimately, God abide,” he said. “Collegiate Seminar is a place where this happens.”

President Donahue also listed what kind of skills Seminar provides to stu-

“What does it mean to be fair and just? How do we respond to the darkness of human nature? These are the kinds of questions that we, as part of Seminar, introduce [to] our students,” said Pres. Donahue.

dents. “[I] watch students grapple with the text, develop an interpretation of the text, dialogue with others about differing interpretations, [and] revise and change their interpretation based on the engagement of dialogue and evidence presented in a dialogue,” he said.

“We develop in them a confidence in developing a voice of their own,” he said. “Developing students’ voices is one of the most important things we do here at Saint Mary’s College and I think we do it very, very well.”

He noted that employers notice something different about Saint Mary’s graduates. “One of the things that employers tell us is that students have the ability to stand up, make an argument, counter an argument, revise an argument, lead, engage, and know how to think about the issues that are on the table,” he said. “I think Seminar, in many ways, is responsible [for these skills].”

After President Donahue’s address, those in attendance were encouraged to engage in Seminar discussion over Immanuel Kant’s “What is Enlightenment” and an excerpt from Hannah Arendt’s “Lectures on Kant.”

The audience was mostly made up of Saint Mary’s faculty. Some students, staff members, and faculty members from other colleges and universities were also present as well.

Audience members returned to hear three plenary addresses from Felicia For de Luna Martinez, Raina Juanita Leon, and Ted Tsukahara.

Julie Park, who organized the Symposium, addressed the peculiarity of having three main addresses instead of just one. see Seminar, page 3



# THE INSIDE PAGE



**The Collegian**  
SAINT MARY'S COLLEGE OF CALIFORNIA

P.O. Box 4407  
Moraga, CA 94575  
206 Ferroggiaro Hall

www.stmaryscollegian.com  
staff@stmaryscollegian.com

Telephone: (925) 631-4279  
Facebook.com/smccollegian  
Twitter: @SMC\_Collegian

GABBY VANACORE  
DEAN BOERNER  
Editors-in-Chief

JACOB TURNROSE  
News Editor

MAUREEN THAETE  
Assistant News Editor

MARSHALL LYMBURN  
SARAH KNEBEL  
Opinion Editors

CAMILLA MARAIS  
KALI KUSHNER  
Culture Editors

KIMBERLY PASCHAL  
TYLER BINDI  
Sports Editors

ELIZABETH MAGNO  
Chief Copy Editor

TERRILYN HO  
Copy Editor

KRISTEN GEIBEL  
Photo Editor

SHAWNY ANDERSON  
Faculty Adviser

The Collegian is the official newspaper of Saint Mary's College, published weekly, except during examination periods and academic recesses. The Collegian reserves the right to hold and edit all submitted materials, solicited and unsolicited. The Collegian's Editorial Board is comprised of all oversight staff members. Other opinions expressed are not necessarily endorsed by The Collegian, its contributors and/or advertisers. Advertisers do not necessarily reflect the view of The Collegian. The Collegian strives for accuracy and fairness in the reporting of news. If a report is wrong or misleading, a request for a correction or clarification may be made.



*"To act upon one's convictions while others wait,  
To create a positive force in a world  
where cynics abound,  
To provide information to people when  
it wasn't available before,  
To offer those who want it, a choice—"*  
—TED TURNER

## Resolution: Academic senators question lawyer's opinion to the College

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

against a race discrimination claim because the voluntary AAP is insufficient under federal and state regulations," she finished.

During an Academic Senate meeting on Wednesday, Sept. 20, Provost Dobkin reiterated her position on the resolution. "Setting [numerical] targets is something, institutionally, we cannot support," she said.

Academic Senate Action S-16/17-27 and several other Senate motions, including a report that they submitted to the state, were put forward in large part due to the Diversity Task Force (DTF).

"The resolution arose out of several months of investigation and data gathering by the Senate [DTF]," said Melinda Thomas. "The DTF was established by the Academic Senate and charged with producing a written report on its findings and conclusions around Afri-

can-American and black hiring at the college," said Professor Mindy Thomas, who co-chaired the DTF with Professor Claude-Rheal Malarly. "The written report was submitted to the Senate, and subsequently, the DTF introduced individual Senate motions based on recommendations and findings in the report. For example, the Senate also approved a DTF motion recommending the College hire a full-time Chief Diversity Officer, and the Provost has approved this idea. More individual motions arising from the report are in progress," said Thomas.

Claude-Rheal Malarly, the chair of the Academic Senate's Diversity Task Force, questioned the lawyer's opinion on Senate Action S-16/17-27. "When you consult a corporate lawyer," he said, "[the lawyer's] imperative is to limit the risk of the corporation." In the case of Hirschfeld Kraemer, Malarly suggested that the law firm's imperative is in limiting the

amount of potential lawsuits and not in "aggressively attracting and hiring black faculty at Saint Mary's."

Thomas shared some of the sentiments expressed by Malarly. "In trying to assess the validity of the lawyer's opinion, the question arises: who [does] the lawyer normally represent?"

"If [corporate] lawyers are used to looking at things in terms of not risking [possible lawsuits]," she asked, "Would a social justice lawyer come up with a different opinion [than a corporate lawyer]?"

However, Thomas clarified, "When I read over [the Hirschfeld Kraemer opinion], it seems to be one reasonable legal interpretation [in regards to] the legality of quotas in affirmative action programs. What I wonder, however, is whether a different kind of lawyer might come up with a somewhat different and more nuanced answer."

"Can we have a lawyer who

has a different imperative?" Malarly wondered. "I wish that Saint Mary's was a place that was willing to do more than play it safe."

"I'm weary of preventing risk," he said. "Last year, there were quite a few black people [hired], and the quality of the faculty was quite high," he said. "That was good, I just fear that the administration will think [that] was enough." Provost Dobkin stated in her senate address that there are now 13 black tenure-track faculty members teaching at Saint Mary's. Gregg Thomson, the Director of the Office of the Institutional Research, clarified that "unofficially," there are 13 black faculty members out of 215.

*An online version of this article includes links to the original senate resolution text, the correspondence between the College and Hirschfeld Kraemer, and the report put together by DTF. Find it at [www.stmaryscollegian.com](http://www.stmaryscollegian.com).*

## Info session instructs on how to navigate DACA repeal

BY TERRILYN HO  
COPY EDITOR

On Monday, Sept. 6, at 6:00 p.m., students, faculty, and staff gathered in the Soda Center, where an information session about the recent developments surrounding Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) was hosted.

The session was conducted by Natasha Baker, a partner out of the San Francisco office of Hirschfeld Kraemer, LLP. Her legal expertise includes the area of higher education, with a focus on student affairs, governance, accreditation, and labor and employment law.

Before diving into the session, President Donahue addressed the audience, ensuring them that the school would "continue to uphold the privacy regulation, as regulated in FERPA." According to Donahue, "This session is part of the college's ongoing effort to provide our community with information and resources on this important

topic." President Donahue went on to note that a DACA webpage was in progress and that students would be allowed to use the site as a resource.

For the time being, Baker stressed that individuals affected by DACA and anyone else who wishes to help should familiarize oneself with the different laws and regulations of not only DACA but immigration rights in general.

In California, Senate Bill 54 (SB-54), officially dubbed the "California Values Act," is currently pending. If passed, the legislation will allow California to assume the status of a sanctuary state and will prohibit state and local law enforcement agencies from using any resources to hold, question, or share information about people with federal immigration agents, unless they have violent or serious criminal convictions. The bill has passed the Senate and is now pending Governor Jerry Brown's approval.

As of Feb. 24, 2017, recent

changes in enforcement priorities from the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) were announced.

Baker emphasized that "DHS will no longer focus on criminal convictions as a basis for removal but will also prioritize removing aliens who have been charged with a crime even if the charges haven't been resolved

For the time being, Baker stresses that individuals affected by DACA and anyone else who wishes to help should familiarize oneself with the different laws and regulations of not only DACA but immigration rights in general.

or have admitted criminal behavior, [including those] who have engaged in fraud or willful misrepresentation to any government agency."

Therefore, according to Baker, both documented and undocumented immigrants are at risk of deportation.

For DACA eligibility, one must have been physically present in

the United States and under the age of 31 as of June 15, 2012. Further conditions include having come to the U.S. before reaching one's 16th birthday and having continuously resided in the U.S. since June 10, 2007.

As of Sept. 5, 2017, the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) has stated that they are "no longer accepting initial requests for DACA" but "will adjudicate initial requests for DACA accepted by Sept. 5, 2017."

They continued on to say that they "will no longer approve advance parole requests associated with DACA. [They] are only adjudicating DACA renewal requests received by Oct. 5, 2017, from current beneficiaries whose benefits will expire between Sept. 5, 2017 and March 5, 2018."

Most importantly, Baker stresses that at this time, the best thing to do is to "spread knowledge and empowerment, not fear."

*Individuals who have met the initial 2012 DACA guidelines may request a renewal on the following webpage: <https://www.uscis.gov/humanitarian/consideration-deferred-action-childhood-arrivals-process/renew-your-daca>*

## Campus Snapshot



STUDY ABROAD FAIR displayed a variety of travel options. (Courtesy of Dean Boerner/ COLLEGIAN)

## Crime Beat

9/18/17 11:00 a.m.  
Incident: Information  
Synopsis: Unwanted and annoying contact; referred to Dean of Students and Title IX Coordinator.

9/18/17 8:00 p.m.  
Incident: Fire Alarm  
Synopsis: Food cooking set off fire alarm - no fire, smoke, or scorching. Referred to Facilities Services and Residential Experience.

9/19/17 9:40 a.m.  
Incident: Fire Alarm  
Synopsis: False Water Flow Alarm - cause unknown (no fire, smoke, or scorching). Referred to Residential Experience and Facilities Experience.

9/19/17 11:45 a.m.  
Incident: Theft  
Synopsis: Saint Mary's property stolen from vehicle; referred to ITS and Loss Prevention.



# NEWS

## Jan Term preview: students choose between 87 courses

BY ADRIANA AVILA  
STAFF WRITER

January will be here before we know it. That being said, it’s time to start looking at Jan Term courses.

This past week was the deadline for students to register for Jan Term travel courses. Some international destinations this year include Bali, Italy, South Africa, Tanzania, Australia, Ireland, India, Greece, and Mexico. Although those places sound exciting and fun, space is limited. But fear not. There are a plethora of fun and exciting on-campus classes.

Is the force strong with you? If so, you may want to consider taking Star Wars and Theology JAN 105, taught by Professor Anne Carpenter. The course description explains that the main focus of this class is “exploring the history and thought of the Christian understanding of freedom using classical texts alongside the cultural phenomenon of Star Wars, following themes from its cinematic roots to its present-day incarnations.” This is an upper division course, and the only prerequisite is TRS-097.

Interested in film or photography, but don’t see yourself majoring in it? Spend the month of January in lower divisions JAN 041, Photographing Nature: Portraits of the Saint Mary’s Environment or JAN 046 Viewing Film Values: Genre and Social Justice. Another option is upper divisions, JAN 125, Film Production: From Concept to Final Cut and JAN 140, Dance for Camera.



JAN TERM STUDENTS enjoying their time in Nepal last year. (Courtesy of Nepal2017saintmaryscollegeofca.blogspot.com)

Some students are very excited for their first Jan Term experiences. Sarah Gallo ‘21 says, “I’m interested in the fencing and martial arts classes because I like sports and being active.” The course JAN 021, Samurai and Japanese Martial Arts: The Evolution of Popular Japanese Martial Arts, will focus on the connection between today’s popular martial arts with the samurai from the past.

JAN 027, Low-Carb or Low-Fat? The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly of Fad Diets, caught the attention of Monica Avila ‘21 and Sidney Salazar ‘21. Avila said, “I think that studying different diets would be interesting and

something I wouldn’t have the chance to study in a regular semester.”

Danielle Friedrich ‘21 has her eye on JAN 040, Dogs’ Evolution, Behavior and Interactions with Humans. This course includes two field trips—one in San Rafael to visit the Guide Dogs for the Blind campus and one to Dogs for Diabetics—and a demonstration of the work of a K-9 Unit on campus.

Meagan Mazany ‘19 says that she’s interested in a Jan Term class that’s about women’s history, saying, “Women aren’t really recognized in history and what they do to continue our lives. It’s good to learn what they’ve

contributed to history.” Those interested in taking a historical Jan Term class may consider taking JAN 132, Living in Stalin’s Russia: Daily Life in Extraordinary Times, 1928-1953, or JAN 063, History of Rock and Roll II: The Summer of Love to the Emergence of Punk.

You might be thinking, “Are these the only Jan Term courses?” The answer is no. There are 87 courses listed for the 2018 January Term.

*For more information on course listings and registration dates and times, be sure to visit [www.stmarys-ca.edu/january-term/course-listings](http://www.stmarys-ca.edu/january-term/course-listings). Happy browsing!*

## Seminar: Over 40 different lectures by faculty and alumni at Symposium

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

At the onset of Collegiate Seminar, she said, there were “disagreements over what Seminar ought to be.” Yet, those who started the program all shared a “spirit of thoughtful and open conversation,” she said.

Therefore, “it made sense then to have three plenary speakers,” she said. Those in attendance also had a chance to listen in on panel discussions, given by both faculty and some recent graduates, including Alex Drake ‘16, Bee Pinner ‘17, Gaby Rodkopf ‘17, and Holly McAdams ‘17.

McAdams led a panel, titled “On Community and Navigating Difference in Seminar,” alongside faculty members Monica Fitzgerald, Rashaan Meneses, and Joe Zeccardi. The panel covered the complications Seminar professors face in facilitating a discussion that is both inclusive and collaborative for students of all backgrounds and identities.

Fitzgerald was the first panelist to speak, addressing the intention of the Seminar program to be grounded in Catholic Social Teaching and the common good. The role of a Lasallian education, she said, is to “fight for a better world.”

However, Fitzgerald continued, “not done well, Seminar

can do damage.” She offered a “tool kit” she uses in her Seminar classes to help students navigate difficult conversations in a way that promotes community building.

Her tools include the use of inclusive language (even on the syllabi), creating community agreement, and inviting students to reflect on how they have handled conflict and disagreement throughout their lives.

McAdams took the floor next, proclaiming the importance of Seminar professors fostering a “healthy learning environment” in which students are not afraid of the way difficult conversations are going to be addressed in class.

“Students want Seminar to be conducted in a way that is safe and secure, but also challenges them,” McAdams said.

Zeccardi explained the value of applying Kimberlé Williams Crenshaw’s concept of intersectionality to Seminar classes.

Zeccardi proposed students should write their Seminar Capstones not merely through the lens of disciplinary knowledge, but also through the lenses of their other identities.

The Seminar program’s emphasis on this disciplinary lens can actually be exclusionary to other students in Seminar classes, he said. “I’ve seen the

major wielded as both sword and shield.”

Meneses reiterated the critical importance of fostering a sense of respect for identity in the Seminar classroom. This, she said, is how seminar professors “help students discover an unshakable sense of self,” echoing Donahue’s words on individual student voices.

After each panelist delivered

“One of the things that employers tell us is that students have the ability to stand up, make an argument, counter an argument, revise an argument... and know how to think about the issues...”

his or her piece, moderator Ellen Rigsby, the Director of Collegiate Seminar, opened discussion to the 11 faculty and in attendance.

Brother Mel Anderson was the first to respond to the panelists, calling Fitzgerald’s tool kit “awfully controlling.” He referred to his own method as a Seminar professor, which is to “let people be who they are”

rather than offer guidelines to moderate the way they participate in discussion.

Fitzgerald’s tool kit, he said, would have students “so worried about saying something, so they cannot say what they want to say.”

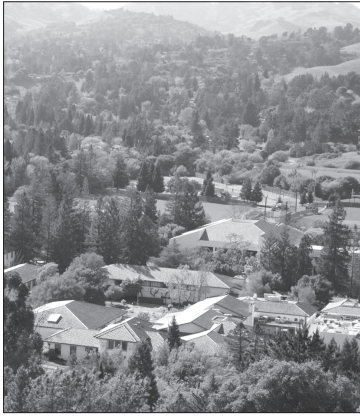
As alumni similarly raised their own concerns about the need for tools to create a respectful dialogue, discussion turned to the changing demographics in the Seminar classroom throughout Saint Mary’s history. “Things are more fraught today than they were in the late sixties,” said Fitzgerald.

Today’s Seminar classes, she says, should hold “opportunity for voices who were silenced.”

After the final set of panels, everybody reconvened to hear Rigsby deliver closing remarks for the Symposium and reiterate the value of the Seminar program to Saint Mary’s unique educational experience.

A reception followed the event, where the community capped off the anniversary celebration by continuing the day’s conversations.

*For more information on the Collegiate Seminar Program, please visit the following webpage: [www.stmarys-ca.edu/collegiate-seminar](http://www.stmarys-ca.edu/collegiate-seminar).*



## Campus Calendar

### Career Center Going Mobile

Wednesday, Sept. 27  
1:00-2:30 p.m.  
Ferrogiarro Hall: Quad  
Contact Career and Professional Development Services  
925-631-4600

### Faith Formation Social

Wednesday, Sept. 27  
1:00 p.m.  
Korth Academic Center: Mission and Ministry Center  
Contact Eddie Ventura  
edv1@stmarys-ca.edu

### Interactive Prayer Experience

Wednesday, Sept. 27  
4:30-7:30 p.m.  
Founders Dining Room  
Contact Taylor Brown  
twb1@stmarys-ca.edu

### Meet the Firms 2017

Wednesday, Sept. 27  
6:00-8:00 p.m.  
Soda Activity Center: Moraga Room  
Contact Patricia V. Acosta  
pval@stmarys-ca.edu

### Question, Persuade, and Refer (QPR) Suicide Awareness and Prevention Training

Friday, Sept. 29  
9:00-11:00 a.m.  
Soda Activity Center: Moraga Room  
Contact Cynthia Cutshall  
cac13@stmarys-ca.edu

### Integral Program Presents Gödel: the Suicide of Language

Friday, Sept. 29  
7:00 p.m.  
De La Salle Hall: Hagerty Lounge  
Contact Steve Cortright  
scortig@stmarys-ca.edu

The Campus Calendar column is a service highlighting major events of the week. To include your event, email details to [staff@stmaryscollegian.com](mailto:staff@stmaryscollegian.com). Due to space limitations, we cannot list individual club meetings.



# OPINION

## Far-right speakers return to Berkeley: Is this free-speech?

BY KIANA LEI YAP  
OPINION COLUMNIST

Lately, it seems that the only free speech that is acceptable is that which aligns with left-of-center discourses. On today's college campuses, students are not provided both sides (i.e. the liberal and conservative points of view) of the argument on many social and political issues. This is problematic. Our higher education system has dissuaded the critical evaluation of what is being taught and pushes theory and opinion as fact. We need to introduce contending ideas to the classroom in order to desensitize students who have been pushed to reject any view dissimilar from their own.

This affects us, even at Saint Mary's. Many professors fail to model respect for differing viewpoints (i.e. conservative or moderate viewpoints on political/social issues) and instead frequently promulgate leftist ideas. This is seen specifically in humanities and liberal arts courses, where right-wing/conservative ideals are demonized as neo-Marxist/socialist views are placed on a pedestal. Moderates are even lambasted. Moreover, socialist ideas are rarely contested, both inside and outside the classroom on our college campus.

For example, in the humanities course I am taking, the professor was promoting socialist ideas like free national healthcare and free college tuition as ultimate goals of what the U.S. government should strive for. A student simply stated that they didn't think that deeply socialist ideals would solve the issues we have with healthcare and the student debt crisis. The professor then condescendingly

laughed at what was said and answered, "The capitalist system fails to equally distribute wealth and resources, which is how a government should work." This type of condescension and failure to model respect for the opinions of others is dangerous to demonstrate to students. It's appalling that one professor thinks this classroom attitude is acceptable. Sadly, this is one instance of many that model this kind of conduct.

Regionally, the University of California at Berkeley has been a site of fierce opposition for the radical left and right, especially in their demonstrations of free speech. The most recent agitation of these groups occurred on Sept. 14, when conservative anti-Trump political commentator and lawyer Ben Shapiro spoke.

Shapiro, host of the iTunes second highest-rated podcast, The Ben Shapiro Show, is renowned for his inflammatory remarks on sociopolitical issues and is often called a white supremacist, right-wing racist by leftists. However, his remarks merely approach American politics and society through a judicious and practical lens. These "inflammatory" remarks were apparently too great for some Cal snowflakes, as the University had to reiterate their availability of emotional and psychological support services.

On a national level, in Evergreen State College in Washington, Professor Bret Weinstein was harassed off the campus in the spring after he spoke out against the "Day of Absence" event. According to The Seattle Times, this was an event where "white students were asked to leave school for a day." Weinstein and his wife, who was an anthropology professor at the College,

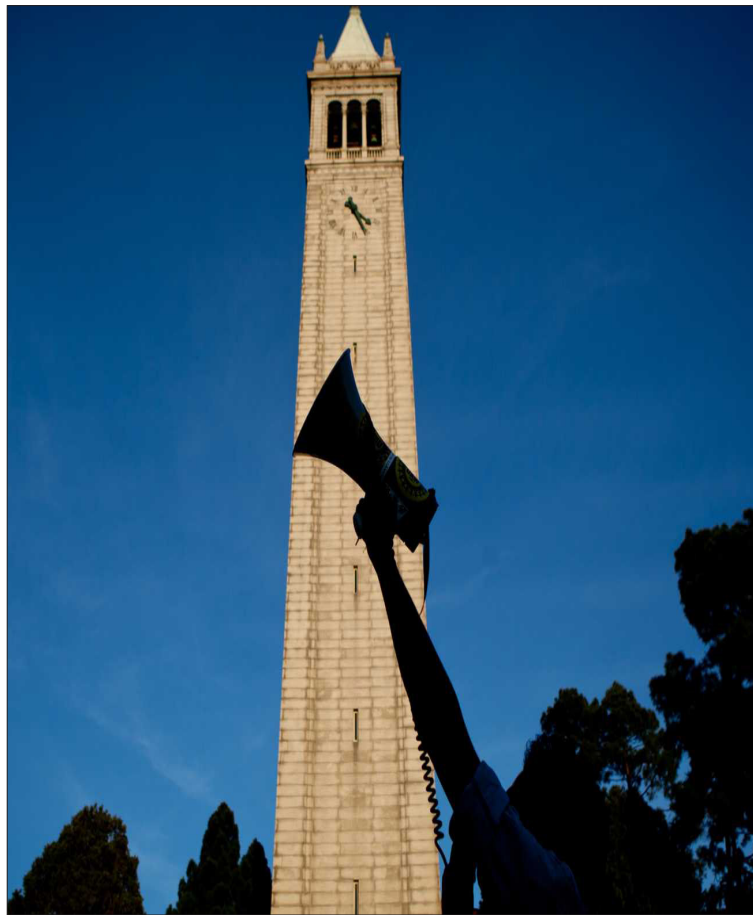
resigned from the institution. They filed a joint claim stating that the College did not "protect its employees from repeated provocative and corrosive verbal and written hostility based on race, as well as threats of physical violence." He exercised his right to free speech in refusing to participate in an event that transformed the campus into a virulent and divisive environment, yet students accused him of promoting white supremacy.

What these occurrences highlight is a broader social issue that is plaguing the collegiate education system: a lack of open-mindedness for varying political viewpoints. What college students are not being taught is how to respect and thoughtfully evaluate ideologically dissimilar viewpoints. More insidiously, the use of violence against those who hold opposing views is not being discouraged.

For Antifa groups, violence is the only pathway to obtaining this social equality. From the far right, we are shown that a disregard for those who are not white is the greatest virtue and that strict adherence to Eurocentric and capitalistic values are society's greatest goals. The complete and unhindered acceptance of beliefs, ideologies, and standpoints that belong solely to one side of the political spectrum signals the absence of critical evaluation. Neither extremity is wholly logical nor realistically pragmatic.

From the far left comes the revival of fiercely illogical socialist discourse. From the far right comes a revival of racist hate speech that diminishes the dignity and tears down thousands of our citizens.

We should work to normalize a variety of political views instead of imposing an ideological monopoly



BERKELEY, CA continues to struggle with a battle over free speech. (Courtesy of Daily Wire)

on campus and casting scorn upon all who disagree, forcing them into silence. What if one can be supportive of equal access to education for all who want it, but be against Affirmative Action? What if one can be against hostile racist violence, but still be an American nationalist?

What we, as college students, need to do is thoughtfully weigh liberal, moderate, and conservative viewpoints on social, political, and economic topics before making judgments or violently reacting. If professors are going to propagate neo-Marxist biases, they need to objectively teach the opposing

views with them, too. Moderate and conservative students need to also feel like their opinions are valid and well-reasoned. Without it, we will undoubtedly continue to see the violent displays of Antifa and the terrorism of white supremacist groups. This generation is being educated at colleges that disavow holding opposing viewpoints, and more alarmingly, communicating them. If we fail to change how we see opposing views on our college campuses, we are sure to sustain our current state of immature and uncompromising political polarization.

## Reciting the Pledge of Allegiance should remain optional

BY KERRY-ANNE LOUGHMAN  
OPINION COLUMNIST

The Pledge of Allegiance has always allowed Americans to express their love and loyalty to the United States of America in a way that is both traditional and eloquent. Many people believe that being a citizen of the United States is an integral part of the American identity and thus revere the Pledge of Allegiance for providing a method in which to foster national pride in schools. Others regard it as simply another poem they were forced to memorize in elementary school. Some are even outraged over the idea of their children being forced to repeat a pledge of loyalty to the United States before they even understand the Pledge itself.

Currently, the Pledge of Allegiance is not required in American classrooms because of a Supreme Court case titled "West Virginia State Board of Education v. Barnette." This case ruled that being forced to speak the Pledge of Allegiance violated the First Amendment to the Constitution—more specifically, the right to free speech. Although the United States government came to this decision in 1943, the debate over whether or not the



PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE continues to fall under free speech, protecting citizens' personal freedom in the U.S. (Courtesy of NBC News)

Pledge of Allegiance should be required in classrooms has never truly died. Though the national pride fostered by the Pledge of Allegiance certainly induces a sense of loyalty and community throughout the country, it's definitely not something that should be forced.

As stated in West Virginia State Board of Education v. Barnette, being mandated to recite the Pledge of Allegiance violates a person's right to free speech. Not

every American feels the urge to declare their loyalty to the United States—some Americans don't even feel a sense of loyalty to the United States at all. And the beautiful thing about the United States of America is that we are allowed to think freely, to speak freely, and to live freely. Our American citizenship is not dependent on how much we love our country.

In addition to the right to free speech, there is also the right to freedom of religion—or more

specifically, the right to not have a religion at all. The words "under God" were added to the Pledge of Allegiance by Congress at the request of President Eisenhower in 1954, inspiring a new debate about the presence of religion in the United States government. Any American who feels that—by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance—they are recognizing the existence of a God they do not believe in should absolutely not be required to say the Pledge of

Allegiance.

There is also the issue of embedding the idea of national pride into the minds of our students without giving them the chance to understand what they're pledging their loyalty to. In order to protect children from the uglier and more violent truths about the United States, our history is often whitewashed and watered-down into a story about liberty, diversity, and hopes for prosperity and happiness. Before deciding whether or not you're proud of being an American, you should first understand American history for what it truly is. On one hand, it's a narrative that does favor the three values of liberty, prosperity, and the pursuit of happiness above all things. On the other hand, it has consistently failed to allow Americans of marginalized identities to freely pursue those values without the constant presence of oppressive structures such as racism, sexism, and homophobia.

Reciting the Pledge of Allegiance should continue to be optional for American students in order to protect their personal freedom and allow them the opportunity to decide whether or not they feel national pride before declaring it out loud.



# OPINION

## Is leader Kim Jong-Un a true threat to the United States?

BY ALEXANDER VICTORIA  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Another day, another threat of absolute destruction. As tensions continue to rise between the aggressive hermit state of North Korea (DPRK) and the Trump administration, it is only natural that Americans everywhere have begun to worry about the possibility of conflict.

Instead of calming our fears, the current presidential administration has done nothing but stoke the fires of conflict. Throughout the course of the current crisis, President Trump and the State Department have displayed an utter lack of good diplomatic sense. A prime example of this is the now infamous promise that President Trump made that he would come down with “fire and fury like the world has never seen” in response to North Korean threats. From these comments to the backpedaling on trade negotiations with South Korea (an obvious and critical ally in the region), we continue to receive more proof of this administration’s total disregard for rational thought and the safety of not just Americans, but all of humanity.

It is easy for the Trump administration and its supporters to say that we shouldn’t worry. They argue that American military superiority would carry the day in any combat situation and that the elimination of the Kim Jong-Un regime would be an overall win for humanity. Initially, this claim makes sense. After all, the North Korean ground forces



KIM JUNG-UN’S consistant threats continue worry those who live in the United States. (Courtesy of The Daily Beast)

are generally outclassed by those of the U.S. and its allies. Sea and air superiority have already been ensured. Additionally, China, one of the few allies of the DPRK, has expressed an increasing amount of doubt about its continued support. Isn’t it high time to remove the internationally condemned country as a threat? If only it were so simple.

Within minutes of the opening of general conflict, millions of South Korean soldiers and civilians, as well as the tens of thousands of American military personnel stationed in Korea, would be subjected to an immense artillery and rocket barrage conducted by hundreds, potentially even thousands, of artillery pieces. There is also the potential of extremely toxic chemical and biological munitions, like

Sarin and VX, being loaded into these artillery pieces. Let’s also not forget about the previously brushed aside North Korean ground forces. Although they are technologically and doctrinally outmatched, they still number in the millions and would be sure to put up one hell of a fight by virtue of sheer manpower and wicked determination.

Even after a victory against the North Korean military, there is no telling how long and costly the ensuing occupation would be. The North Korean people are deeply fanatical, intensely desperate, and woefully unprepared for outside contact. On top of that, the North Korean landscape is rough and mountainous, with very poorly built up infrastructure. Unfortunately, our country does have some past

experience with situations like this one. If the North Korean operation is even half as costly as either Iraq, Afghanistan, or Vietnam (spoiler alert, it will be much more than just half as costly), then we already know too well the cost of such an effort.

This entire scenario discounts the problems of nuclear retaliation. Recent reports of the North Korean missile program’s advancements give us plenty of reasons to worry about the future. There has been a string of ballistic missile tests in the past months, each one more bold than the last. In fact, a missile test conducted in the last week of August had its test rocket fly over Japan as a show of strength, something that had never been done before. Though the currently produced Musudan missiles do not have the capability to

reach the American mainland, they serve as a constant threat to Korea, Japan, the Philippines, and several U.S. overseas territories, including the strategically important island of Guam. Even locals of the Bay Area can’t feel too safe, as there are missiles confirmed to be in development that would put our beloved region into the range of impending doom. As if all that weren’t enough, North Korea successfully tested a fusion-based Hydrogen warhead (H-bomb) earlier this month. These new nuclear warheads are hundreds of times more devastating than the fission-based weapons currently in use.

I am in complete agreement with Russian President Vladimir Putin’s recent observations on the situation: “It’s counterproductive to inflate this military hysteria. This leads nowhere.” For me to agree with that statement from our geopolitical rival should be unthinkable. There is a twisted victory in President Trump’s ability to make such a thing possible. The administration’s insistence on maintaining an unnecessarily threatening posture is absurd and darkly comedic. Despite the warnings of so many both at home and abroad, President Trump seems to want to do no more than bark loudly and carelessly swing around a big stick. Though it is still most likely that no real harm will come of the ongoing crisis, President Trump and his administration will continue to be a source of domestic and international fear and loathing.

## Mixed emotions with announcemnt of the 2018 Bachelor

BY ISABELLA FERRANTE  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

On Sept. 7, ABC answered the much anticipated question: Who will the 2018 Bachelor be? They announced that the Bachelor for the 22nd season is Arie Luyendyk Jr., a cast member from the eighth season of “The Bachelorette.” While we are all waiting for the season premiere, fans can’t help but ask: Who is Arie Luyendyk Jr.? As a consistent viewer, I had no idea, and I’m certain that I’m not alone.

Luyendyk was last seen in 2012 on Emily Maynard’s season of “The Bachelorette.” He was the runner-up and has stayed out of the spotlight since then. Unfortunately for Luyendyk, Maynard’s final choice was Tyler Johnson. The two have remained together and are raising a family. However, Luyendyk is still single, 36 years old and a former race car driver. His post reality-television life consisted of him building up his real estate business and working on his personal success outside of the TV spotlight. Some people were pleased that they will get to see an old familiar face on this upcoming season, while others are very confused about ABC’s decision.

As someone who only started watching “The Bachelor” franchise in 2015, I have no recollection of Luyendyk’s role within the show. Many fans of the popular show were also very confused when they heard of the announcement. Usually, the person who gets picked to star in “The Bachelor” was a contestant who was on the previ-



NEW BACHELOR, Arie Luyendyk, is given a second chance to find love. (Courtesy of CNN)

ous season of “The Bachelorette” or on the franchise’s summer spin off show, “Bachelor in Paradise.” With so much drama resonating from the past few shows, most people were expecting that ABC’s pick was going to be Peter Kraus. Kraus was Rachel Lindsay’s runner-up on her past season of “The Bachelorette” and was most definitely a fan favorite. Other possible bachelors were some of the men from Jojo Fletcher’s 2016 season of “The Bachelorette.” Personally, many of the men from Fletcher’s season had exciting personalities and would have made the show interesting to watch for the upcoming season. Some people, like myself, have not been watching the show for very long, so this pick was confusing. Even people who have watched the show for years did not remember who Luyendyk was and what determined him to

be the best pick for “The Bachelor.”

Due to this unusual choice, I have been wondering if the franchise is in its downfall. Lindsay’s 2017 season lacked excitement in comparison to Fletcher’s 2016 season. The 2017 Bachelor was Nick Viall, who did not show very much emotion throughout his season, resulting in negative reviews from fans. The most exciting part of Viall’s season was Corinne Olympios, a contestant who kept audiences entertained with her antics every week. The 2017 seasons were bland, resulting in several fans deciding to not watch anymore.

It’s possible that ABC is attempting to bring back some of their old fans by picking Luyendyk as the lucky bachelor. Although this may help bring back some viewers that were frequent watchers of Emily’s season, there have been so many

personalities that fans have seen since 2012. Therefore, people might not remember what Luyendyk was like. Although I do not see the show going away anytime soon, it is interesting to note how random ABC’s pick was and watch

the result of this choice on live television. With all of the uncertainties, the upcoming season will be fun to watch, and Luyendyk will (hopefully) be able to find his true love—well, as true as love on reality TV can get.

The Collegian  
SAINT MARY’S COLLEGE OF CALIFORNIA

Let your voice be heard.  
Advertise in *The Collegian*.

Promote your business, club, event, or group, or send a personal message.

For more information, contact us at  
smccollegian@gmail.com.



# CULTURE

## Sister Act: The Musical a huge success at Berkeley Playhouse



**SISTER ACT** stars Elizabeth Jones as Deloris Van Cartier and hits the Berkeley stage for the month of October. (Courtesy of Ben Krantz Studios)

BY KALI KUSHNER  
CULTURE EDITOR

On Saturday, Sept. 23, I had the privilege of attending the opening night for the Berkeley Playhouse production of “Sister Act,” the musical inspired by the 1992 film, starring Whoopi Goldberg. Beforehand, I was able to interview Kimberly Dooley, Producing Artistic Director of the theatre, in order to learn more about the amazing role the theatre plays in the community. The theatre itself, built by architect Julia

Morgan in 1908, was initially constructed as a Presbyterian church. This was clearly seen as you walk down the rows of converted pews, which I found conveniently appropriate for this production. Overall, it was a beautiful space with a welcoming staff and lively communal atmosphere.

I was inspired by how absolutely dedicated the theatre is to providing access to the arts, even offering a “pay-as-you-can program.” This program prices tickets as low as five dollars for

those who are at an economic disadvantage in the often extravagant, theatrical sphere. Furthermore, Berkeley Playhouse Founder, Elizabeth McKoy, is particularly invested in providing a supportive, artistic space for all, including classes for children and diverse casting. “Our intentional multi-cultural casting has brought our beautifully diverse community to our stage to tell incredible stories,” McKoy said. “We’ve seen kids truly grow up on our stage and in our classes, building lasting and meaningful

relationships and skills here. We’ve nurtured over six original musicals for all ages, including a world premiere, and we continue to support a thriving local team of artists, educators and administrators that make our theater hum with creativity and life.”

The production itself runs until Oct. 22. It was an absolute success and left the entire audience on their feet come curtain call. For readers unfamiliar with the musical, it follows Deloris Van Cartier, an aspiring singer who witnesses a murder at the hand

of her abusive lover. After running to the police, she is forced to hide out in a convent under the guise of Sister Mary Clarence, who ends up placed in charge of the convents struggling choir. As the choir gains popularity and Sister Mary Clarence finds an unexpected sisterhood in the choir, her ex and his goons conspire to make sure she can never testify at the murder trial.

All of the artists were especially talented, but I was especially blown away by Heather Orth, who played Mother Superior. Her voice was absolutely beautiful as she filled the theater with the gospel-inspired score, and I often found myself covered in goose bumps when she took center stage. In between these moments of stunning vocals and original choreography, the house was overcome with hysterical laughter inspired by both the cast and members of the audience, leaving me with a light heart and wide smile as I left the theater.

When I initially spoke with Dooley, I asked her to sum up the goal of the production into one word—the one word to capture the experience she wanted each guest to leave with. After a pause, she replied: “moved.” “I’d like people to have had an amazing time, be uplifted, fall in love, feel joy, and to laugh, especially now in this world,” said Dooley.

Without a doubt, the theatre has achieved this and more. I can only hope that readers will take a chance and visit Berkeley Playhouse either for this production or another because it is truly a magical place built on support and love.

## The Killers showcase their maturity in latest album

BY KYLE BROWN  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Long gone are the love triangles and synths of “Hot Fuss,” the guitar-heavy fun of “Sam’s Town,” and the dance/pop sensibilities of “Day & Age.” The Killers’ latest effort, “Wonderful Wonderful,” is the mature work of a team that clearly knows their way around the recording studio. After a simple promotional effort coming in the form of radio and concert debuts, music videos, and live Q&As with the band members, The Killers’ newest album is finally out.

The Victims (self-styled name for fans of The Killers) have done their waiting. Five years of it since 2012’s “Battle Born,” which was a bit of a flop with fans and band members alike. The pseudo-hiatus has seen members release solo albums while others have left the touring lifestyle behind. Despite all this, The Killers deliver again with an album that plateaus above the average without any real mountainous successes.

Since their first album thirteen years ago, The Killers have certainly grown up. “Wonderful Wonderful” has an introspective narrative that is different from the yearning love songs that are iconic of their previous work. Lead singer Brandon Flowers revealed in interviews that much of the album is a message to his wife, Tana Flowers, detailing how he wishes to be better for her sake.

“The Man” is a fun track that is the embodiment of Flowers’ swaggering stage persona. With cliché lyrics and a call to David Bowie, it is exactly what you would expect from a band raised in Las Vegas, but with a genuine quality that escapes just being hokey. However, when taken in the context of the whole album, it stands in opposition to many of the other tracks. It is immediately followed by “Rut,” which opens with the lyrics “Don’t give up on me/ ‘cause I’m just in a rut.” Just one song ago, listeners were presented with a man brimming with confidence and self-belief; now we see the vulnerable side that asks the listener (Tana) to have faith while Flowers promises to keep climbing.

The following track “Life To Come” holds a message that seems to be addressed directly to his wife. Flowers promises her that if she needs him, he will “run” to be by her side. This arc is completed in the final song, “Have All The Songs Been Written?” Here, Flowers evaluates his past and whether there is any hope in the future. We hear him doubt that there is anything left for him to do, that all his work has been done and he has still come up short. However, in the closing lines of the chorus he pleads, “I just need one, to get through to you.” There is still a little bit of hope in these lines, answering the titular question that there may still be at least one song that has not been written.



**THE KILLERS** are a versatile rock group, best known for their single “Mr. Brightside.” (Courtesy of Billboard)

On a purely sonic level, without Flowers’ distinctive voice, one might be surprised to learn it is a Killers album. However, this variety is part of the Killers’ style, as all of their albums have been fresh and distinct from one another while staying true to the soul of the band. The guitar heavy song, titled “The Calling,” shows what would have happened if the Killers had run with the sound they found in their sophomore album Sam’s Town. They managed

to capture the essence of their 2006 selves while maintaining the grown-up attitude of the rest of the album. Snatches of past albums appear in many of Wonderful Wonderful’s tracks. “Tyson vs. Douglas” harkens back to the synthy beats of “Day & Age,” while the titular “Wonderful Wonderful” brings out the weirdness that was touched on in 2007’s “Sawdust.” Many of The Killers’ classic hits have been high energy rides, from the blaring opening chord of

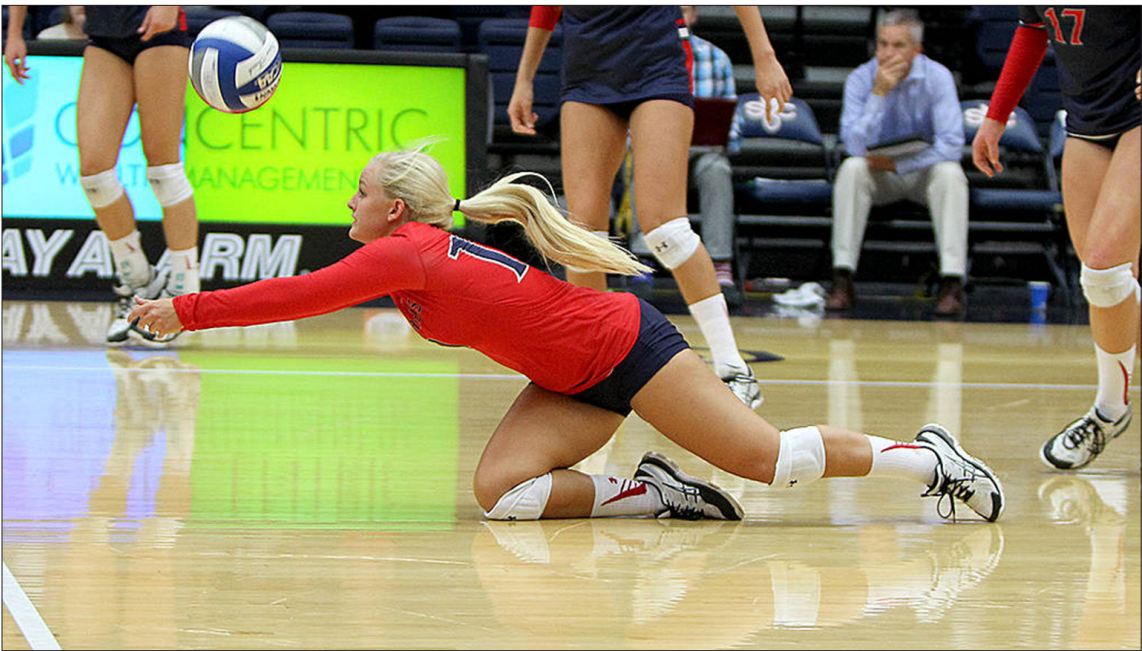
“When You Were Young” to the mid-song crescendo of the famous “I’ve got soul but I’m not a soldier.” This energy which they had always used to magnificent effect is dialed back on “Wonderful Wonderful,” which is the album’s biggest shortcoming.

For their next album, one can look on the bright side and hope The Killers will look back to when they were young and make a triumphant return to their days of glamorous indie rock and roll.



# SPORTS

## Volleyball drops two matches in Pacific Northwest



MADI WILKERSON pops one up for the Gaels; she recorded 14 digs in their match against Portland. (Courtesy of smcgaels.com)

BY DEAN BOERNER  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Saint Mary's volleyball opened up their conference season on the road last week, ultimately falling to two Pacific Northwest opponents in Gonzaga and then Portland. Saint Mary's fell to Gonzaga 3-2 (26-24, 16-25, 23-25, 25-20, 15-13) on Thursday and Portland 3-0 (25-20, 25-22, 25-21) on Saturday. At the Martin Centre Thursday night, Saint Mary's and Gonzaga squared-off for the second straight conference-season opener. Through the first half of the first set, neither team built more than a two-point lead. At one point, the Gaels had a 15-13 lead after a long rally ended with senior Mary Hernandez setting up sophomore Sienna Young for the kill.

The Bulldogs won the next seven points, building a 21-15 lead, but Saint Mary's clawed their way back to eventually tie things up at 24-24. Gonzaga won the next two points behind kills by sophomore Jenna Kuehn and freshman Chapin Gray to take the first set 26-24. Saint Mary's came back with force in the second set. Up 20-15, the Gaels went on to take five of the next six points to tie the match 1-1. Saint Mary's protected a small lead for most of the third set, but Gonzaga came back late to tie it up 22-22 and then take the lead 23-22 on a kill by Chapin. Gonzaga's lead didn't last long, as the Gaels took the next three points to take a 2-1 lead in the match. Gonzaga began the fourth set with a furious run to take leads of 8-0 and then 11-2. Down by as

many as 11 points in the fourth set, Saint Mary's battled to within four at one point, but Gonzaga's lead proved to be too much when the Bulldogs tied the match 2-2.

Gonzaga	3
Saint Mary's	2

The deciding fifth set played much like the first. Gonzaga and Saint Mary's went back and forth to start, eventually coming to a 12-12 tie. Two kills by Kuehn made it 14-12 Gonzaga and forced Saint Mary's to call a timeout. The Gaels made it 14-13 on a kill by Sienna Young, but the Bulldogs finally took the match with a 15-13 fifth-

set win. Lindsey Calvin put up a season-high of 16 kills and Young had a career-high of 15 kills in a dramatic contest to begin WCC play. The Gaels headed in the direction of home for their second contest of the week, traveling south to play Portland Saturday afternoon at the Chiles Center. The Pilots took control early

Portland	3
Saint Mary's	0

in the first set to take a 13-7 lead. Down six, the Gaels chipped away at Portland's lead to soon make it 20-18 Portland, but Portland then took five of the next seven points to take the first set. The Gaels were up by four at one point in the second set and looked poised to even the match at a set apiece, but Portland regained the momentum. The Pilots retook the lead with a 5-0 run and never looked back on their way to taking the second set.

It was a similar story in the third set. Portland built an early lead and the Gaels tried to mount a comeback, but the Pilots proved to be too much for Saint Mary's in the third-straight set. With the two losses, Saint Mary's falls to 4-8 overall and 0-2 in conference and will try to regroup for a week that includes a Tuesday home match against USF, a Thursday away match against LMU, and a Saturday road match against Pepperdine.

## Sports this week

### WOMEN'S SOCCER



**Fri. vs Portland 3:30 p.m.**  
**Sun. vs Gonzaga 3:30 p.m.**  
After finishing non-conference play 4-6, the Gaels begin WCC action against Pacific Northwest rivals Portland and Gonzaga.

### MEN'S SOCCER



**Sat. @ Akron, 7:00 p.m.**  
The Gaels will hit the road for their final non-conference match of the season. They will take on Akron to begin a four game road trip that is headlined by three WCC opponents.

### WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL



**Tues. vs USF, 7:00 p.m.**  
**Thurs. @ LMU, 7:00 p.m.**  
**Sat. @ Pepperdine, 12:00 p.m.**  
Coming off a tough week, in which the Gaels dropped two matches against Gonzaga and Portland, Saint Mary's will attempt to bounce back with a huge three game week.

### CROSS COUNTRY

**Fri. @ Notre Dame/Jo e Plane Invitational, Notre Dame, Ind.**  
**Sat. @ Capital Cross Challenge, Sacramento, CA**  
Raymond Boffman and Abby Bolt grab individual victories for the Gaels during the Santa Clara meet.

### MEN'S TENNIS

**Fri.- Sun. @ Aggie Invitational, Davis, CA**

### WOMEN'S TENNIS

**Fri.- Sun. @ Cal Nike Invitational, Berkeley, CA**

## USMNT struggles to qualify for 2018 FIFA World Cup



THE USMNT looks to qualify for the 2018 FIFA World Cup in their two remaining matches. (Courtesy of sbnation.com)

BY ELIZABETH MAGNO  
CHIEF COPY EDITOR

The 21st FIFA World Cup is less than one year away. For those who are unfamiliar with the tournament, the FIFA World Cup is the pinnacle event of the soccer (or fútbol) world. Thirty-two teams travel to a designated country and compete for the coveted Rimet Trophy. The tournament begins with group stages (also known as a "round-robin" tournament) before progressing to a single-elimination tournament in the second half of the competition. This coming 2018 World Cup will be held in Russia. Currently, many of the 32 teams are still to be decided, as countries

continue to compete for a spot. So far, eight teams have secured a berth to the tournament. From the Asia division, Iran, Japan, South Korea, and Saudi Arabia have filled in spots. The Euro zone has penned two teams into the World Cup with Belgium and Russia. The North, South America, and Caribbean region see Mexico heading to the tournament. Brazil has also secured their ticket while Africa and Oceania have yet to provide a qualifying team. One of the bigger stories about these qualifying stages is the probability of the United States Men's National Team (USMNT) securing a berth to the tournament. For their division, there are a total of five rounds, plus a sixth playoff round

for intercontinental playoffs. For the first round, the 14 lowest-ranked members of the region compete; seven draws (a two-game series) are made and the winner of each series progresses to the next round. This competition style continues through the second and third rounds as the matches continue to move through the rankings of the region. By the fourth round, six teams, anywhere between the seventh and 35th ranking positions, get the chance to face off against the top six teams in the North, South America, and Caribbean division. This is where the United States began their play. The fourth round is organized into three groups—A, B, and C—and each group plays in the style of a

round-robin tournament. The 12 remaining teams are drawn randomly into each group. The USA was drawn in Group C and placed first. Because of their standing, the team automatically made it to the fifth and final round. Mexico took the top spot for A, and Costa Rica was the overall winner of B.

Currently, the teams that qualified for the fifth round have all played eight games. Through these completed matches, Mexico, Costa Rica, and Panama sit in the first three spots. The United States sits fourth while Honduras and Trinidad and Tobago take up fifth and sixth. Despite their fourth place position, the United States could be in trouble because there are only two games left in the round. The USA can earn, at a maximum, six points from these final two games (three points per game if they win against both Panama and Trinidad and Tobago). Should America win both matches, the team faces automatic qualification for the 2018 World Cup. Any other result could put them in a precarious position—they could either qualify for the intercontinental playoff game or face an unfortunate exit from the qualifiers.

The USA men's team has qualified for the past nine World Cup tournaments, and the team hopes to continue this streak. The United States-Honduras game will take place in Orlando on Oct. 6, 2017. Their final match against Trinidad and Tobago will take place a few days later on Oct. 10.



# SPORTS

## Men’s soccer puts on strong performances at home



STEPHEN DOUGHERTY dribbles the ball upfield in the second half of the Gaels’ Saturday afternoon match against Sacramento State. (Dean Boerner/COLLEGIAN)

BY TYLER BINDI  
SPORTS EDITOR

The Saint Mary’s men’s soccer team went into the week looking to gain momentum as they headed into conference play. They certainly succeeded in that respect, as they went the distance in a 1-1 draw with UC Davis on Thursday before picking up an impressive 1-0 victory over Sacramento State

on Sunday.

Against UC Davis, the Gaels again went the entire 110 minutes before settling on a 1-1 tie. It was only the second home game of the year for men’s soccer, and both have proven to be thrillers that resulted in draws. However, this game could have been much more than just a tie for the Gaels.

It was Ever De La Torre’s bar down blast in the 68th minute that gave Saint Mary’s a late 1-0

lead. De la Torre’s majestic first goal of the season appeared to be enough to lift the Gaels to victory, but the Aggies had other ideas.

In the 83rd minute Nabi Kibunguchy put on a dazzling dribbling display, weaving through the Saint Mary’s defense. Kibunguchy then sent a pass the way of Jacob Rudolph, who would find the back of the net and tie the game up 1-1.

The game would eventually go through two full overtime periods without either team being able to earn a victory. Saint Mary’s best opportunity on goal came in the 95th minute when senior Ben Braman launched a leaping header that was saved by Aggie goalie Jon Laughlin.

This certainly appeared to be a game that the Gaels should have won, as they had control throughout the majority of the

contest. They outshot the Aggies 15-8, but the offensive disparity was not enough to lift Saint Mary’s to victory.

On Sunday, the Gaels were able to dominate both sides of the field en route to a 1-0 win over Sacramento State. The game, however, was not without excitement. It was a physical contest throughout the entire 90 minutes. The two teams compiled 30 total fouls and four yellow cards between them.

Saint Mary’s came out firing in the second minute when a Max Mirner header lead to a Jake Rudel goal that would give the Gaels the lead for good for the next 88 minutes. It was the team’s third shutout of the year, as they were lead by redshirt sophomore goalie Remi Prieur. Prieur was only forced to make two saves on five total Hornets shots, as the Saint Mary’s defense held steady throughout the duration of the match.

Defense has been a major key for the Gaels lately, as they have allowed only one goal or fewer in each of their past five matches.

The Gaels will now turn back around and begin a four game road trip that begins in Akron, Ohio, Saturday, Sept. 30. The team will then begin West Coast Conference play with games at Gonzaga, Santa Clara, and San Francisco.

## NFL athletes respond to Trump’s comments with show of solidarity



THE DOLPHINS are a few of many to show solidarity during the anthem. (Courtesy of CNN)

BY KIMBERLY PASCHAL  
SPORTS EDITOR

During a political rally in Alabama on Friday, Sept. 22, President Donald Trump gave NFL owners some advice on how to handle players that protest during the national anthem. Trump advised, “Wouldn’t you love to see one of these NFL owners, when somebody disrespects our flag, you’d say, ‘Get that son of a b--- off the field right now. Out! He’s fired.’”

In response to the comments, NFL commissioner Roger Goodell released a statement on Saturday morning that said, “The NFL and our players are at our best when we help create a sense of unity in our country and our culture.” Goodell went on to say, “Divisive comments like these demonstrate an unfortunate lack of respect for the NFL, our great game and all of our players, and a failure to understand the overwhelming force for good our clubs and players represent in our communities.”

In a statement released by the

NFL Players Association, NFLPA Executive Director, DeMaurice Smith, expressed support for players who choose to protest during the national anthem because their opinions are protected. He went on to say, “However, the line that marks the balance between the rights of every citizen in our great country gets crossed when someone is told to just ‘shut up and play.’”

Trump’s comments sparked outrage among NFL players, fans, and athletes across all sports. Trump’s remarks did not stick to solely criticizing NFL players. During the Golden State Warriors’ media day, Stephen Curry was asked if he would still be interested in visiting the White House to celebrate their Championship victory with the President. Curry said that he was no longer interested in a visit to the White House due to the Trump administration’s rhetoric and policies. Trump then felt the need to respond to Curry and notify him that he was no longer invited to the White House. Many NBA players, one be-

ing LeBron James, called out Trump. LeBron in particular tweeted: “U bum [Stephen Curry] already said he ain’t going! So therefore ain’t no invite. Going to the White House was a great honor until you showed up!”

The start of protests in sports can be traced back hundreds of years: from Muhammad Ali refusing to enlist in the Vietnam War in 1967, to the 1968 Mexico City Olympics where John Carlos and Tommie Smith raised their fists in the Black Power salute. NBA players wore “I Can’t Breathe” shirts in warmups in 2014. Colin Kaepernick kneeled during the national anthem in the 2016-2017 NFL season. Athletes, especially black athletes, have been using their platform for years to create change in our world. Although kneeling during the national anthem may be new, athletes protesting racial injustices in America is not an innovative idea.

Athletes are given a huge platform. When Hurricane Harvey and Hurricane Irma hit Houston and Florida, respectively, many athletes took it upon themselves to help their communities. Just like what NFLPA’s Smith said, a line should be drawn when someone is told to “shut up and play.” NBA, NFL, WNBA, and even one MLB player have shown that they won’t just shut up and play.

On Saturday, NBA players, fans, and broadcasters poured in their support for Curry’s comments on not intending to visit the White House. During the Oakland A’s game Saturday, Bruce Maxwell, a rookie catcher, became the first MLB player to kneel, or protest in any way, during the national anthem. The protests still did not stop. On Sunday during Game One

of the WNBA Finals, the Los Angeles Sparks chose to stay in the locker room during the national anthem. Throughout Sunday’s NFL games, numerous players, coaches, and NFL personnel kneeled, sat, or stood in solidarity. Many NFL players voiced their support for Kaepernick in their choice to protest during the national anthem.

In light of Trump’s comments, we have seen an influx of support toward protests during the na-

tional anthem. Throughout the day, Trump continued to make statements against these protests. Time will only tell if Trump learns and understands the true meaning and importance of these protests, but one thing is for sure: Colin Kaepernick’s intent in kneeling was to spark conversation about the injustices and the way blacks/African-Americans are treated in the United States, specifically in regards to police brutality and systemic racism.

### Pizza with a purpose.

Bring in this flyer, present it to your server, and we’ll donate 20% of your check to the organization listed below. Purchases include dine in, take out, catering and all beverages.

**Support The Collegian:**  
Come to an all-day fundraiser supporting the SMC student-run print newspaper.  
**Friday, Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup> 2017** from 11:00am to 10:00pm  
To access this flyer online, visit [stmaryscollegian.com](http://stmaryscollegian.com)

**Valid only at the following location:**  
**California Pizza Kitchen**  
1325 South Main Street  
Walnut Creek, CA 94596  
925-938-0720

Join the **Pizza Dough™ Rewards program** on your next visit or at [cpk.com](http://cpk.com) and receive a **free Small Plate** for registering.



Fundraiser offer valid only on the date(s) and at the CPK location identified on the flyer. Only 501c organizations and non-profit schools are eligible to participate in CPK's FUNdraiser program. CPK will donate twenty percent of food and beverage sales to the organization. Tax, gratuity, gift card and retail sales are excluded from the donation. Offer valid for dine in, take out, online, catering or curbside orders. Valid for delivery orders placed directly with CPK. Offer void if flyer is distributed in or near restaurant. For more information about the 501c organization participating in the FUNdraiser, please contact the organization directly.